

REMARKS

I. Introduction

At the time of the Office Action of March 22, 2007, claims 1-6 were pending in this application. Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the Examiner's indication that claims 2 and 3 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1 and 4-6 stand rejected.

In this Amendment, claims 1-6 have been canceled, and new claims 7-9 have been added. Specifically, new claim 7 is an independent form of allowable claim 2; new claim 8 corresponds to allowable claim 3 depending on allowable claim 2; and new claim 9 is an independent form of allowable claim 3. Therefore, the present Amendment does not generate any new matter or any new issue for that matter. Accordingly, entry of the present Amendment is solicited pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

II. The Rejection of Claims 1 and 4-6

Claims 1 and 4-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hasegawa et al. However, this rejection has been rendered moot by cancellation of those claims. Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

III. Conclusion

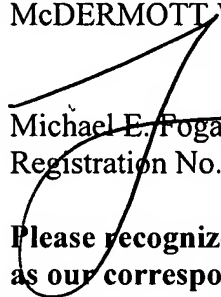
Accordingly, the application is in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number shown below.

10/534,714

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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